

Getting Started At Midi Arranging

1. Access material for project

Open your Internet Browser and paste this URL in the box at the top.

<http://www.barbershop.org/document-center/category/19-free-music-for-printing.html>

2. Print sheet music

Print out sheet music for "You're a Grand Old Flag", second song from the bottom of the page.

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3. Set up score in Finale-

Start your Finale program and set the Wizard for SATB. Set it up for cut time, four flats, half note pickup and 69 measures in length.

4. Enter individual parts to SATB lines

Change Alto line to bass clef (click on clef tool at top of page, double click on pickup measure and when option box comes up, double click on the bass clef sign- fourth from the left. Repeat on the first full measure). Manually enter all of the notes from the Tenor, Lead (Alto), Baritone, Bass lines on the corresponding lines of the score into Finale (Song Writer). For this exercise, you need only to transfer the first page. If you want to complete this number for future use, continue as far as you wish.

Important Comment: At this point you may wonder what arranging midi file has to do with your first four instructions for we have not yet modified any midi files. I wanted you to be able to enter notes from an existing printed score before we start on cutting and copying midi information. Many of the tunes that you will want to arrange may already be in hard copy form and with this post, you will understand how these printed sheet can be modified for your use.

Now that you have entered each note from the original score into your four lines in your Finale program, make sure you save this material before continuing on to the next instruction.

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5. Sustaining notes

Combine every repeated note to give more of a more choral sound rather than a choppy, mechanical sound. This is much more instrumental than the first version.

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6. Adjusting Range

Alto and bass lines are changed to treble clef and both are raised an octave. The Tenor line is also lowered an octave and now becomes the third part. The fourth part is checked to make sure that all notes are playable. If fourth part is below the playable range of the instrument, the whole chart must be transposed so that it fits within the range of every instrument.

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7. A Simple Arrangement

To illustrate how this material can be altered to resemble a real arrangement, I began with the original melody of eight measures and then added the soprano or the third part for the next eight measures. After that I added the bass part, again for eight measures and finally added the alto part for the last eight measures. To give it a more interesting close, I just copied and pasted the last four measures in as a tag.

You're A Grand Old Flag

Page #1

Cohan

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

This block contains the first four measures of the vocal score. The Soprano part is in treble clef, Alto in bass clef, Tenor in treble clef with an octave 8 below the staff, and Bass in bass clef. All parts are in 4/4 time and the key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

5

S

A

T

B

This block contains measures 5 through 8 of the vocal score. The Soprano part starts with a measure rest followed by a melodic line. The Alto part has a measure rest followed by a melodic line. The Tenor and Bass parts continue the melody from the previous block. The Soprano and Alto parts feature a long note with a slur in measure 6.

11

S

A

T

B

This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 11 through 16. It features four staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Soprano staff uses a treble clef and a soprano C-clef (8). The Alto staff uses a bass clef. The Tenor staff uses a treble clef and an alto C-clef (8). The Bass staff uses a bass clef. The music is in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. The Soprano part begins with a whole rest, followed by a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes. The Alto part begins with a whole rest, followed by a line of quarter notes and a half note with a slur. The Tenor part begins with a whole rest, followed by a line of quarter notes. The Bass part begins with a whole rest, followed by a line of quarter notes.

17

S

A

T

B

This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 17 through 22. It features four staves: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The Soprano staff uses a treble clef and a soprano C-clef (8). The Alto staff uses a bass clef. The Tenor staff uses a treble clef and an alto C-clef (8). The Bass staff uses a bass clef. The music continues in the same key signature and time signature. The Soprano part has a melodic line with a slur over measures 18-19. The Alto part has a melodic line with a slur over measures 18-19. The Tenor part has a melodic line with a slur over measures 18-19. The Bass part has a melodic line of quarter notes.

You're A Grand Old Flag

Page #3

22

S

A

T

B

This system contains four vocal staves labeled S, A, T, and B. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The Soprano part begins with a whole rest in measure 22, followed by a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes. The Alto part also starts with a whole rest, then has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The Tenor part begins with a whole rest, then has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The Bass part starts with a whole rest, then has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The system ends with a double bar line.

28

S

A

T

B

This system contains four vocal staves labeled S, A, T, and B. The music continues from the previous system. The Soprano part has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The Alto part has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The Tenor part has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The Bass part has a half note followed by a half note with a slur. The system ends with a double bar line.

A

Solo

33

S *f*

A

T

B

B

S *mp*

A

T *mp*

B

You're A Grand Old Flag

C Page #5

48

S *f*

A

T *f*

B *f*

54

S *mp*

A *mp*

T *mp*

B *mp*

D

60

S
A
T
B

E

S
A
T
B